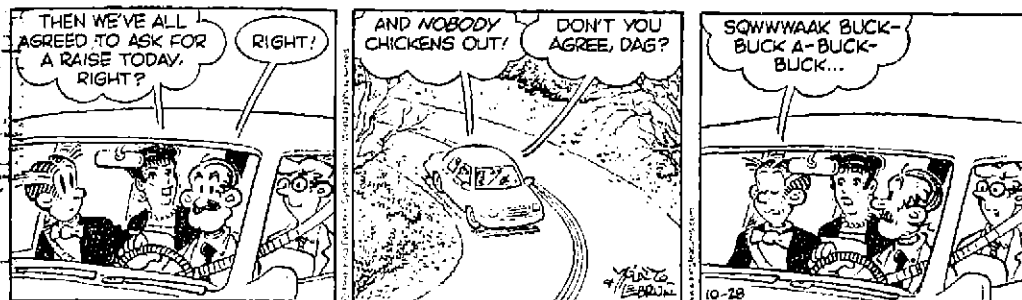


BLONDIE



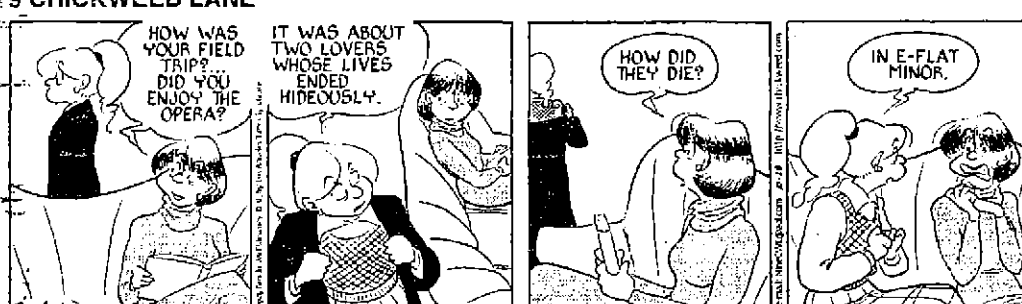
SALLY FORTH



THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN



9 CHICKWEED LANE



ANDY CAPP



ROSE IS ROSE



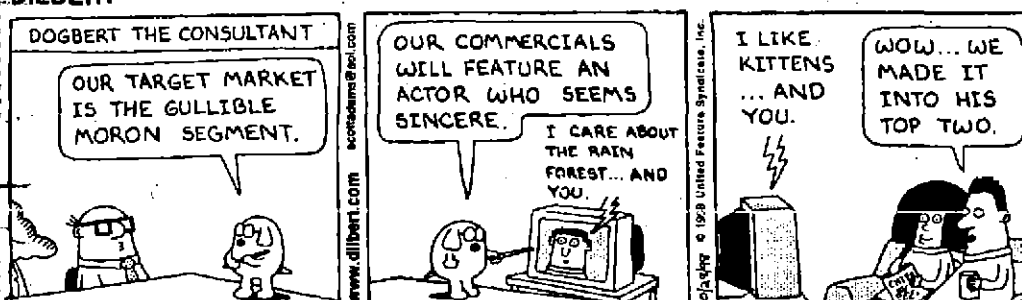
HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM



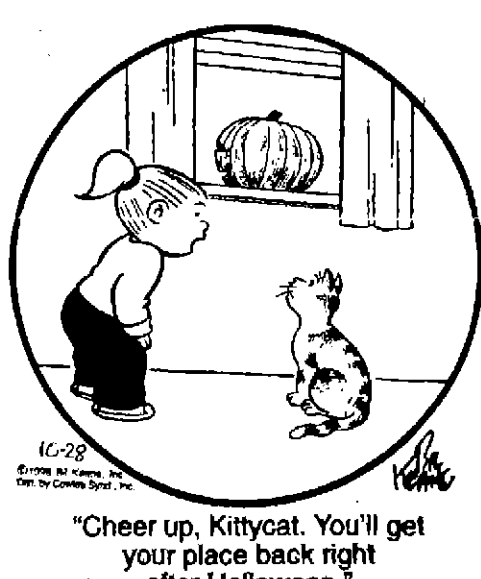
DILBERT



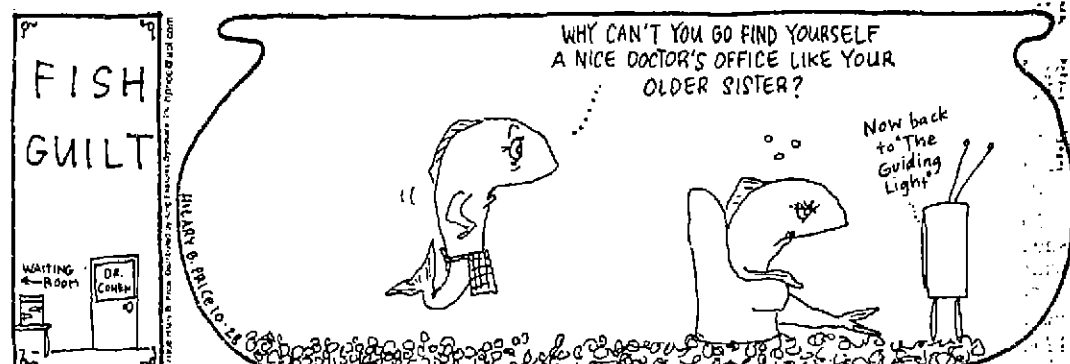
DENNIS THE MENACE



FAMILY CIRCUS



RHYMES WITH ORANGE



RALPH



Today's Birthdays

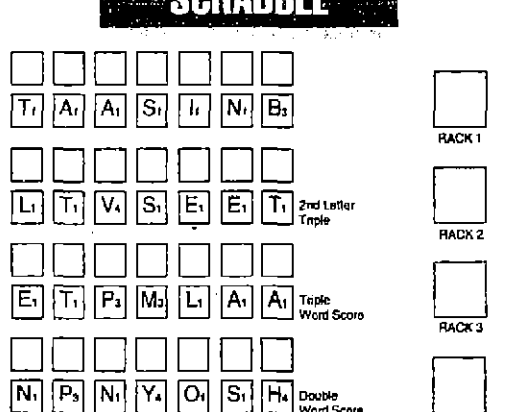
Former Baseball Commissioner **Bowie Kuhn** is 72.
Actress **Joan Plowright** is 69.
Actress **Dody Goodman** is 69.
Actress **Suzi Parker** is 65.
Musician-songwriter **Charlie Daniels** is 62.
Actress **Jane Alexander** is 59.
Singer **Curtis Lee** is 57.
Actor **Dennis Franz** is 54.
Microsoft Chairman **Bill Gates** is 43.
Actress **Julia Roberts** is 31.

I NEED HELP



At the Pottery Barn / Victoria Secret merger.

SCRABBLE



PAR SCORE 120-130
by JUDD
FOUR RACK TOTAL TIME LIMIT: 20 MIN
DIRECTIONS: Make a 2 to 7 letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word, using scoring directions at right. 7-letter words get 50-point bonus. "Planks" used as any letter have no point value. All Judd's words are in The Official Scrabble Players Dictionary (Merriam-Webster) and OSW Official Scrabble Words (Chambers). **JUDD'S SOLUTION TOMORROW**
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For solution, see Classified.

WORD SLEUTH

Train talk



Tuesday's unlisted clue: BROGUE
Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.
Wednesday's unlisted clue hint: THE LAST CAR

Boxcar Diesel Rails Station
Catwalk Diner Roadbed Tanker
Coach Engine Sleeper Yard
Coupler Flatcar Spur

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For solution, see Classified.

HOROSCOPE

For Thursday, Oct. 29, 1998
ARIES (March 21 to April 19) You are simply bursting with great ideas for the future.
TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Conflicts arise over who's responsible for which domestic duties.
GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) A lecture, exhibit or passing conversation sways your opinion on a personal or political issue.
CANCER (June 21 to July 22) When it comes to romance, single Crabs should not be afraid to make a move.
LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22) Hiding your displeasure at compromising will behoove you greatly in the long run.
VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22) A strange request has hidden meanings that you will soon come to discover.
LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Someone finally sees the value in a proposal that you recently made.
SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) If you dream of living elsewhere, ask yourself why you're still in the same spot.
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) If you are seized with the desire to get out and do something different, be sure to run with the moment.
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19) A romantic partner is likely to surprise you in a most delightful and unexpected fashion.
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18) Find a new outlet for sharing your vision of the future, and you will be heard.
PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20) Put career concerns first and foremost, and you'll be simply amazed at how much you can accomplish.

ACES ON BRIDGE

By Bobby Wolff

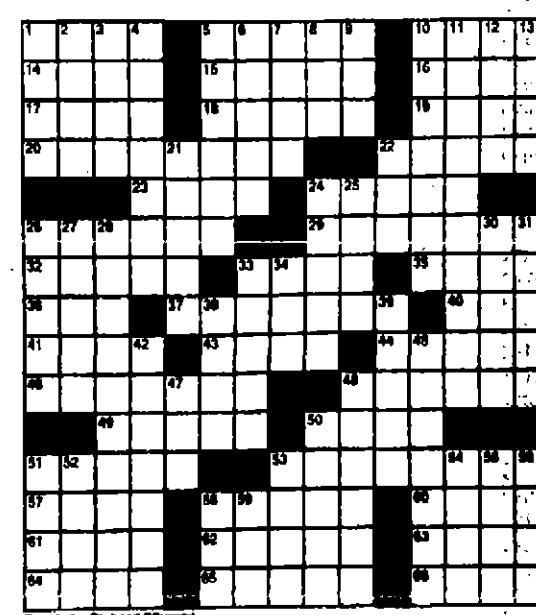
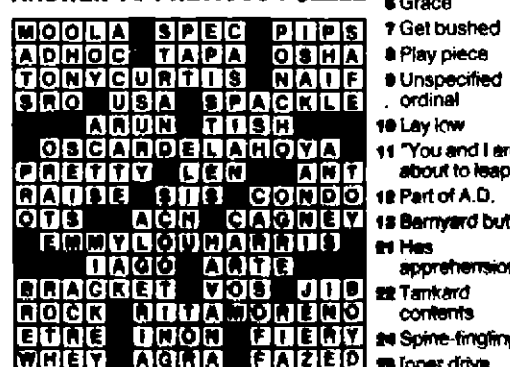
"You duplicate players are all alike," berated a critical East. "You're so obsessed with denying an overtrick that you toss away a vulnerable game." Why did East have to eat his words during the post-mortem? West struck oil with his opening leads: The spade suit was South's weakest link. Instead of taking his best shot and playing dummy's king, South brazenly played low from dummy, and East took his queen. East continued with his ace, and when South played low, West huddled. Should he jettison the spade jack — a sure winner? He decided against it and blocked the suit. When East led a third spade, West took the jack, but that was all. Dummy's clubs were more than enough to produce game and an overtrick. Should West have unloaded his spade jack? Certainly. It was his only hope to beat the game. How about East? Was he an innocent victim? No, he was equally responsible for the debacle. When West led the spade six, East could not lose by inserting his eight. If West had led from a doubleton, the eight was the correct play. If West's lead was from J-7-6, there would have been no accidents. East's ace and queen would have cleared the suit, and West's lead would have received deserved accolades.

N.Y. TIMES CROSSWORD

No. 091

- ACROSS**
1 Witty remark
5 Prince of Darkness
10 Loot
14 Sweet sandwich
15 Proclamation
16 Atlantic City game
17 My fodder's place?
18 Needle point?
19 Humerus neighbor
20 "The guy's going to shoot"
22 Set aside
23 Long, long time
24 Mopes
26 One with equal billing
- DOWN**
29 Approach stealthily
32 None of the above
33 Fort McHenry sight
35 Bond foe
36 Saul — Marie
37 Like many martini olives
40 Tag players
41 Put one's cards on the table, maybe
43 "Don't rush into anything!"
44 Banks of diamond fame
46 Maid of —
48 Drawn-out war tactics
49 Time on the job
50 Ambassadorship, e.g.
- DOWN**
1 Kid
2 Cuyahoga's outlet
3 Order to a broker
4 Not in time
5 Next year's alumnus
6 Grace
7 Get bushed
8 Play piece
9 Unspecified ordinal
10 Lay low
11 "You and I are about to leap"
12 Part of A.D.
13 Barryard butter
14 Hiss
15 Apprehensions
16 Tankard contents
17 Spine-fingling
18 Inner drive

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE



- ACROSS**
27 Cousin of a mink
28 "The woman will behave outrageously"
29 Loosen
31 Sits for snaps
32 Religious observance
34 Andalusian article
36 Famous friend
38 Jefferson was one
- DOWN**
42 Diplomat's quest
43 Disavow
47 Pitch in
48 Lead-tin alloy
49 Show topper
51 Put up stakes
52 Shade of black
53 Nile wader
54 Makeup
55 Menlo Park middle name
56 Beavis or Butthead
58 Guy's date
59 Pay stretcher?

Answers to any three clues in this puzzle are available by touch-tone phone: 1-900-420-5656 (95¢ per minute). Annual subscriptions are available for the best of Sunday crosswords from the last 50 years: 1-888-7-ACROSS.